

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00

AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00

DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05

FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01

PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /136 W

-----072220Z 108390 /73

R 071715Z APR 77

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3506

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 EC BRUSSELS 03515

DEPT PASS NMFS, DEPT OF COMMERCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, EFIS, PLOS

SUBJECT: US FISHERY OFF FRENCH GUIANA

REF: (A) STATE 70908, (B) EC BRUSSELS 2681, (C) EC BRUSSELS 64

(ALL NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: AS INSTRUCTED, MISSION OFFICER CONVEYED TO THE EC COMMISSION THE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS REGARDING THE DETERMINATION OF A FISH SURPLUS OFF FRENCH GUIANA AND THE PROBLEMS WHICH A POSSIBLE REQUIREMENT TO LAND SHRIMP IN FRENCH GUIANA WOULD CAUSE COMMISSION OFFICIAL SIMMONET CONCEDED THAT THERE PROBABLY IS A SHRIMP

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SURPLUS AT PRESENT BUT NOTED THAT IT COULD DISAPPEAR AS A RESULT OF FRENCH PLANS TO EXPAND FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA AND IF BRAZIL REFUSES TO COOPERATE IN SHRIMP CONSERVATION MEASURES. HE SAID DECLARING A SURPLUS WOULD ALSO HAMPER EC EFFORTS TO PHASE OUT JAPANESE AND KOREAN FISHING AND TO FAVOR US FISHING IN THE AREA. HE SAID THE EC WAS NOT REPEAT NOT NOW CONTEMPLATING

LANDING REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTED THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS TO CONTINUE. IN THE MEANTIME, THE COMMISSION PROPOSED A DRAFT REGULATION TO THE EC COUNCIL AUTHORIZING BRAZIL, SURINAM, JAPAN AND KOREA TO FISH OFF FRENCH GUIANA UNTIL JUNE 30, 1977 AT THE SAME RATE AS IN 1977 AND IMPOSING A PRIOR LICENSING SYSTEM ON ALL FISHING IN THE AREA, INCLUDING THAT BY US FISHERMEN. ACTION REQUESTED: INFORM US FISHING INTERESTS OF PROPOSED REGULATION IN PARA 5 BELOW. END SUMMARY.

2. MISSION OFFICER MADE THE POINTS IN REF A TO EC COMMISSION OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH FISHERY MATTERS (SIMMONET AND FARNELL) ON APRIL 6. IN ORDER TO ASSURE A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF US VIEWS IN REGARD TO SHRIMP FISHING OFF BRAZIL AND THE GUIANAS AND OUR DESIRE FOR WHATEVER SCIENTIFIC DATA AND EVIDENCE THE EC MAY HAVE FOR A FINDING OF "NON-SURPLUS," MISSION OFFICER LEFT A PAPER SUMMARIZING PARAS 1 AND 2. HE ALSO RECALLED THAT GALLAGHER HAD TOLD THE DCM ON MARCH 17 THAT SHRIMP LANDING REQUIREMENTS MIGHT BE IMPOSED, AND HE NOTED THE PROBLEMS A REQUIREMENT THT ALL SHRIMP WOULD HAVE TO BE LANDED IN FRENCH GUIANA WOULD CAUSE U.S. FISHERMEN, REPEATING POINTS PARA 6 REF B AND MAKING THOSE IN PARA 3 EFF A.

2. SIMMONET CONCEDED THAT THERE PROBABLY IS A SHRIMP SURPLUS OFF FRENCH GUIANA AT THIS TIME. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS AMBITIOUS PLANS TO EXPAND LOCAL FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA AND SHORE-BASED SHRIMP LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROCESSING FACILITIES IN ORDER TO FURTHER THE DEVELOPMENT OF THAT RELATIVELY BACKWARD FRENCH DEPARTMENT. IF BRAZIL CONTINUES TO REFUSE TO COOPERATE IN ESTABLISHING A REGIONAL ARRANGEMENT FOR SHRIMP FISHING AND EXPANDS ITS SHRIMP FISHING ACTIVITY, HE SAID, SUCH ACTIVITY COULD SERIOUSLY THREATEN A DEPLETION OF STOCK, IN WHICH CASE ANY PRESENT SURPLUS WOULD QUICKLY DISAPPEAR. FOR THESE REASONS THE EC WOULD REPPER STARTING FROM A NON-SURPLUS POSITION. FURTHER MORE, HE SAID, THE EC (COMMENT: READ FRANCE) IS GENERALLY PLEASED WITH US FISHING ACTIVITY OFF FRENCH GUIANA AND THE CONTRIBUTION IT IS MAKING TO ITS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BY PROCESSING SHRIMP IN CAYENNE AND WOULD LIKE TO PHASE OUT JAPANESE AND KOREAN SHRIMP FISHERMEN WHO PROCESS THEIR CATCH ELSEWHERE. UNDER THE REVISED SINGLE NEGOTIATING TEXT OF THE UNLOS, SIMMONET SAID THE EC IS ON SOUNDER GROUNDS TO PHASE OUT THE JAPANESE AND KOREANS AND FAVOR U.S. FISHERMEN IF IT DOES NOT DECLARE A SURPLUS OF SHRIMP OFF FRENCH GUIANA.

3. MISSION OFFICER DEMURRED AND REPATED THAT THE U.S. BELIEVES THE PRINCIPLES OF DETERMING SURPLUS THROUGH SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE SHOULD APPLY OFF FRENCH GUIANA AS IT DOES IN THE U.S. FISHERY CONSERVATION ZONE.

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FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01
PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /136 W
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R 071715Z APR 77
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3507
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
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DEPT PASS NMFS, DEPT OF COMMERCE

4. SIMMONET SAID THAT THE EC IS NO LONGER CONSIDERING THE IMPOSITION OF LANDING REQUIREMENTS ON U.S. SHRIMP FISHING VESSELS. IT IS AWARE THAT SOME US-HARVESTED SHRIMP ARE PROCESSED IN SURINAM AND POSSIBLY ELSEWHERE BUT IS PLEASED WITH THE LARGE QUANTITIES ALSO PROCESSED IN FRENCH GUIANA AND WILL PERMIT THE PRESENT ARRANGMENTS TO CONTINUE. HE NOTED THAT, ACCORDING TO AVAILABLE INFORMATION, THERE ARE ONLY ABOUT 50 U.S. REGISTERED VESSELS FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA. HE INDICATED THAT QUOTAS HAVE NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR THE AREA, IN PART BECAUSE OF THE TENTATIVE NATURE OF THE DATA ON HAND. THESE INDICATE A TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH (TAC) OF SHRIMP OFF FRENCH GUIANA OF 10,000-15,000 METRIC TONS.

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END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

5. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: FOLLOWING THE CONVERSATION WITH SIMMONET, THE MISSION RECEIVED A COPY OF THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL TO THE EC COUNCIL FOR REGULATION WHICH WOULD PERMIT BRAZIL, SURINAM, JAPAN AND KOREA TO FISH OFF FRENCH GUIANA FROM APRIL 1 THROUGH JUNE 30, 1977 AT THE SAME RATE AS IN 1975, SUBJECT, HOWEVER, TO THE POSSIBLE FIXING OF TACS AND QUOTAS IN THE INTERIM. THE CONDITIONS IN PROPOSED REGULATION ARE ALSO TO APPLY TO U.S. FISHING ACTIVITY OFF FRENCH GUIANA WHICH IS AUTHORIZED THROUGH THE END OF 1977 (REF C). THE COMMISSION PROPOSES IN THE REGULATION THAT FISHING BY THE FIVE STATES "SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE GRANTING OF A LICENSE ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY BY THE COMMISSION." THE PROPOSED REGULATION STATES THAT "APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION" SHALL INCLUDE: NAME OF VESSEL, REGISTRATION NUMBER AND EXTERNAL IDENTIFICATION LETTERS AND NUMBERS, PORT OF REGISTRATION, GROSS TONNAGE AND OVERALL LENGTH, AND RADIO CALL SIGN. FRANCE IS TO TAKE MEASURES TO "ENSURE THE ENFORCEMENT" OF THE CONDITIONS IN THE REGULATION AND TO WORK WITH THE COMMISSION IN MONITORING THE CATCHES BY THE FIVE STATES CONCERNED. THERE ARE NOT OTHER CONDITIONS OR PROVISIONS FOR SUCH CONDITIONS AS LANDING REQUIREMENTS, INVESTMENT IN FISHING IN FRENCH GUIANA, ECT. END UNCLASSIFIED.

6. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: COMMENT: SIMMONET SAID THAT HE EXPECTED THE PROPOSED REGULATION WOULD BE APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL WITH LITTLE DIFFICULTY SHORTLY AFTER EASTER HOLIDAYS BY THE WRITTEN PROCEDURE TECHNIQUE. UNLESS THE PROPOSED REGULATION BRINGS UP AN UNEXPECTED QUESTION OF PRINCIPLE, WE AGREE WITH SIMMONET THAT OTHER MEMBER STATES WHICH HAVE LITTLE DIRECT INTEREST IN FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA RELATIVE TO OTHER PENDING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FISHING PROBLEMS, WILL PROBABLY READILY APPROVE THE REGULATION. WE BELIEVE THE DEPARTMENT AND NMFS SHOULD BRING THE PROPOSED REGULATION DESCRIBED IN PARA 5 ABOVE TO THE ATTENTION OF INTERESTED U.S. FISHING FIRMS BUT MAKE CLEAR THAT SO FAR IT IS ONLY A PROPOSAL AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND FINAL APPROVAL BY THE EC COUNCIL

BEFORE IT CAN BE APPLIED. HINTON

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Message Attributes

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